AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO LEND CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FOR USE AT THE FOURTH NATIONAL JAMBOREE

June 13, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. Brooks of Louisiana, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2771]

The Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2771) to authorize the Secretary of Defense to lend certain Army, Navy, and Air Force equipment and provide certain services to the Boy Scouts of America for use at the Fourth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the Secretary of Defense to lend certain Army, Navy, and Air Force equipment, and to provide certain services, to the Boy Scouts of America for use at the fourth national jamboree to be held at Valley Forge, Pa., during the period June–July 1957.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

Prior to World War II, it was customary for the Government to assist the Boy Scouts in connection with their annual jamboree by lending to them the necessary camping, messing, refrigeration, and medical equipment needed at the site of the encampment.

The custom was revived following World War II and the acts of October 5, 1949, and May 26, 1952, authorized the loan of military property to the Boy Scouts for use during the second and third national jamborees.

The provisions of these acts are practically identical with the authority contained in this bill.

The equipment and services to be furnished must be agreed upon by the Secretary of Defense and the National Council of Boy Scouts of America. The bill also requires that the Secretary of Defense take from the Boy Scouts of America an appropriate bond for the safe return of such property as is loaned and that no expense shall be incurred by the United States Government for the delivery, return, rehabilitation, or replacement of any equipment that is furnished.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, interposes no objection to the enactment of the bill. The views of the Department are contained in the following letter on H. R. 8356, a similar bill.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, Washington, D. C., April 11, 1956.

Hon. CARL VINSON,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,

House of Representatives.

Dear Mr. Chairman: Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense with respect to H. R. 8356 and H. R. 8592, 84th Congress, bills to authorize the Secretary of Defense to lend certain Army, Navy, and Air Force equipment and provide certain services to the Boy Scouts of America for use at the Fourth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes. The Secretary of Defense has delegated to the Department of the Army the responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense thereon.

The purpose of these bills is to authorize the Secretary of Defense to lend tents, cots, blankets, commissary equipment, flags, refrigerators, and other equipment and services as may be necessary or useful to the Boy Scouts of America during the Fourth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America to be held during June and July 1957,

at Valley Forge, Pa.

The Department of the Army, on behalf of the Department of Defense, interposes no objection to the above-mentioned bills. It is recommended, however, that the phrase "to the extent that items are in stock and available and their issue will not jeopardize the national defense program" be inserted at the end of section (a) of the bills.

Under the authority of the language "other equipment and services as may be necessary or useful" appearing in previous enactments for similar support of scouting the following types of support have been

furnished on a nonreimbursable basis:

(1) Highly specialized equipment for administrative support and the operation of such equipment.

(2) Personnel for security of and organizational maintenance of equipment loaned.

(3) Administrative support personnel such as supervisors, medical

and dental technicians, military police, and bandsmen.

(4) Temporary duty and per diem costs of the foregoing support

personnel as authorized by law.

The fiscal effects of this legislation are not known to the Department of Defense. The bills, however, provide that no expense shall be

incurred by the United States Government for the delivery, return, rehabilitation, or replacement of the equipment and that the Boy Scouts of America shall furnish a good and sufficient bond for the safe return of all property loaned to them in good order and condition and without expense to the United States.

An identical report on S. 2771, 84th Congress, an identical bill, has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance

with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advised that there was no objection to the submission of the report on S. 2771.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WILBER M. BRUCKER, Secretary of the Army. incomed by the United States Government for the delicers return, retaining your or remainment of the equivalent end the like like flow for the end of the like flow for the good and sufficient meant for the gold reference of the particular and reference to the flow that and out of the end of the e

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Signed) Vinson M. Baroren. Diereting of the Amag.

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